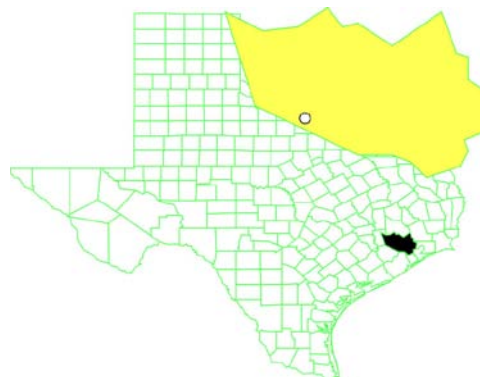


SAN JACINTO RIVER WASTE PITS

Harris County, Texas

EPA Region 6
EPA ID# TXN000606611
Site ID: 0606611

Contact: Stephen Tzhone, (214) 665-8409
State Congressional District: 2 and 29
Updated: DRAFT August 2009



Current Status

The EPA is in the process of investigating parties associated with the site who may be liable for the costs of remedying the release or threat of release of hazardous substances.

In addition, the EPA is designing a comprehensive sampling plan in coordination with federal and state trustees and working with the Corps of Engineers to develop an overall watershed management strategy.

Benefits

The site has been finalized on the National Priorities List.

National Priorities Listing (NPL) History

Proposal Date: 9/17/2007 (72 FR 53509)
Final Listing Date: 3/19/2008 (73 FR 14719)

Site Description

Location: The Site is in Harris County in the State of Texas. The Site itself has no specific street address. The Site is comprised of an area of land and an area of the San Jacinto River bottom, i.e., river sediment that is contaminated with certain hazardous materials from released waste paper mill sludge. The Site is located in an area where the Interstate Highway 10 Bridge crosses over the San Jacinto River. The Site is located east of the City of Houston between two unincorporated areas known as Channelview and Highlands.

The northern part of the Site includes an abandoned 20-acre tract of land (Tract). Currently, the tract of land is owned by Virgil C. McGinnes Trustee and is bounded on the south by Interstate Highway 10, on the east by the San Jacinto River main channel, and on the north and west by shallow water off the River's main channel. Virgil C. McGinnis is deceased.

Site Map



Wastes And Volumes

The primary hazardous substances documented at the Site are polychlorinated dibenzo-p-dioxins and polychlorinated dibenzofurans. Dioxin concentrations as high as 41,300 parts per trillion have been found in soil and sediment samples collected from the Tract's disposal pit areas and from river sediments near the Tract. Sediments contaminated with high levels of dioxin have been found in the San Jacinto River both up-river and down-river from the Tract. The complete nature and extent of the contamination will be delineated during the Remedial Investigation.

Health Considerations

The primary hazardous substances that have been documented at the San Jacinto River Waste Pits site are polychlorinated dibenzo-p-dioxins and polychlorinated dibenzofurans. Samples collected in the disposal pits and in the San Jacinto River have dioxin concentrations as high as 41,300 parts per trillion. Fish tissue samples have been collected by the Texas Department of Fish and Wildlife, and dioxin has been found in both fish and crab tissue samples above a health based benchmark.

Sediment, water, and tissue samples collected in the vicinity of the impoundments show elevated levels of dioxins. A consumption advisory based on dioxin is in place on this segment of the watershed. The current advisory recommends that adults eat no more than one meal per month caught from the advisory area, and suggests that women of childbearing age and children not consume any blue crabs or fish from the advisory area.

Record of Decision

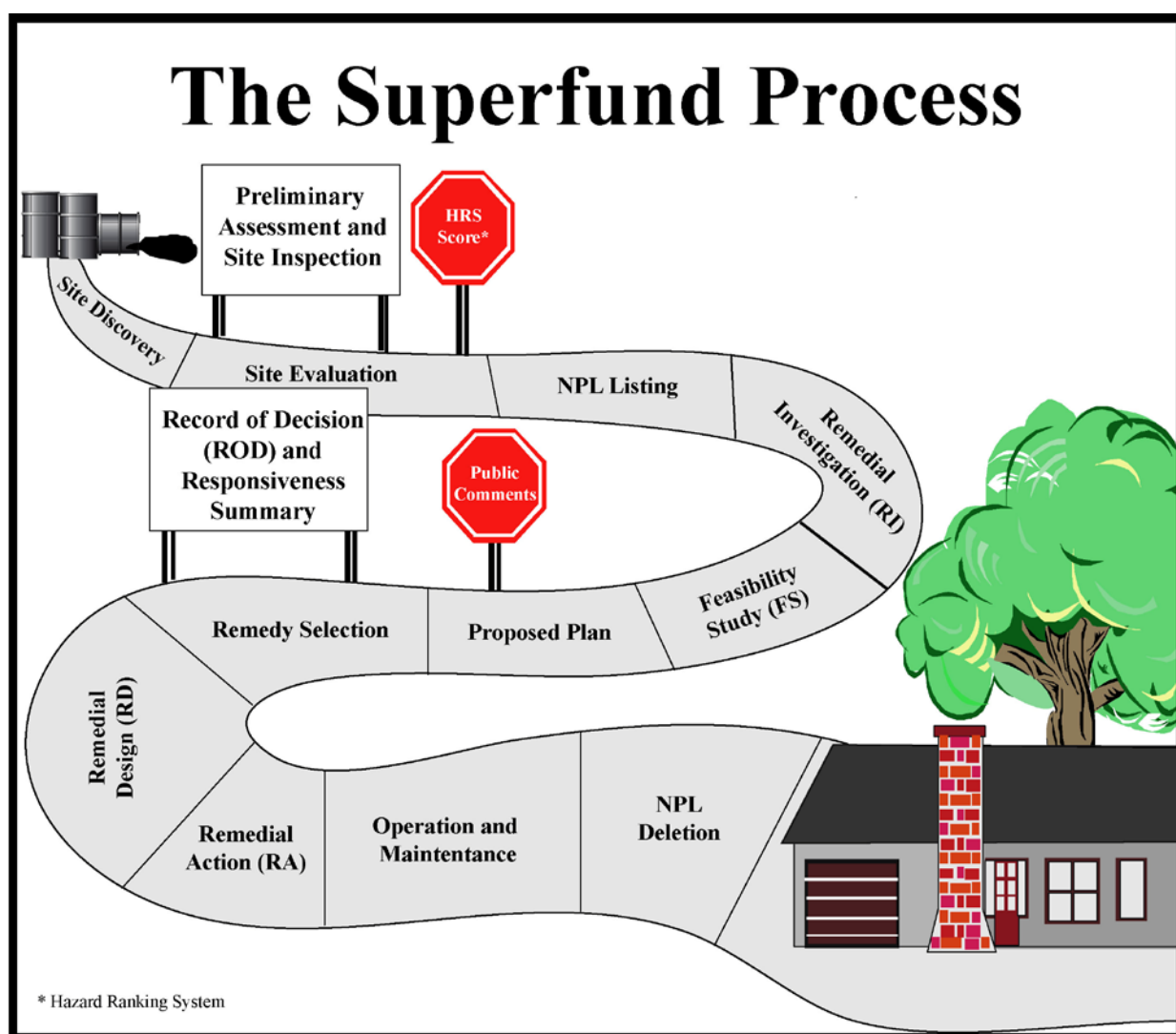
A Record of Decision will be completed during the Remedy Selection.

Operations and Maintenance

Operations and Maintenance activities will be completed after the Remedial Action.

Community Involvement

A formal meeting to solicit public input will be held during the Proposed Plan.



Site Contacts

EPA Remedial Project Manager:	Stephen Tzhone	(214) 665-8409
Texas State Project Manager:	Marshall Cedilote	(512) 239-4134
EPA Site Attorney:	Barbara Nann	(214) 665-2157
EPA Regional Public Liaison:	Donn Walters	(214) 665-6483

Site Information Repository:	Pasadena Public Library 1201 Jeff Ginn Memorial Dr. Pasadena, TX 77506	(713) 477-0276
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EPA Toll Free Region 6 Superfund Information Line:	(800) 533-3508
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EPA Region 6 Freedom of Information Act Online Request Form:
<http://www.epa.gov/region6/6md/foia/foiaform.htm>

EPA Region 6 Contact Us Online Request Form:
<http://www.epa.gov/region6/r6coment.htm>